

REMARKS

Reexamination and reconsideration of the application as amended are requested. Support for adding the "directly physically engages with the machine" language in claims 1 and 19 is found, for example, from figure 1. Support for adding the "wherein the printer, the copier, the scanner, and the facsimile-sending device each operate on data received from a source other than at least one of the first and second operator panels" language in claims 1 and 19 and for the added language in claims 4-6 is found, for example, from figures 2-3, from the operation of a copier, a scanner, and a facsimile-sending device of an all-in-one printing system operating in a stand-alone mode, from the operation of a printer and a facsimile-sending device of an all-in-one printing system operating in a computer host based mode, and from the stand alone and computer host based modes of operation mentioned in original claims 2-5. Support for amending claims 2 and 3 is found, for example, from figures 2 and 3.

The examiner's rejection of claims 1-5, 7, 10, 11, 14, 15, 17, and 19-21 as "anticipated", under 35 USC 102(e), is respectfully traversed. The examiner rejects these claims as being unpatentable over Gillam (US 2004/0051894). Claims 2-5, 7, 10, 11, 14, and 21 depend from claim 1, and claim 17 depends from claim 15.

Claim 1 requires that the first operator panel 14 or the second operator panel 16 be capable of enabling the machine 12 to function as at least a printer, a copier, a scanner, or a facsimile-sending device, wherein the printer, the copier, the scanner, and the facsimile-sending device each operate from a source other than at least one of the first and second operator panels 14 and 16. This is so because claim 1 allows the possibility of only one of the operator panels 14 or 16 being capable of enabling the machine 12 to function only as a photo card reader.

Each operator panel 12 of Gillam only allows the machine 10 of Gillam to print, copy, scan, or fax image data sent by an operator panel 12 to the machine 10 and not sent by a different source to the machine 10 (see the abstract and figures 2-3 of Gillam and see also paragraphs [0029] and [0024] of Gillam).

Claim 1 also requires that each attached operator panel 14 and 16 directly physically engage with the machine 12 when attached to the machine 12. Each attached operator panel 12 of Gillam is attached to the machine by a wire (or wireless) connection and does not directly physically engage with the machine 10.

Claim 2 requires that the first and second operator panels 14 and 16 cannot record an image. The recorder 20 of each operator panel 12 of Gillam can record an image contrary to the requirements of applicants' claim 2.

Claim 3 requires that the first operator panel 14 cannot transmit image data to the machine 12. It is noted that the examiner admits in the advisory action that the digital camera (see recorder 20 of operator panel 12 of figure 2) of Gillam can record images and that these images are sent to the machine 10. Each operator panel 12 of Gillam transmits image data to his machine 10.

Claim 4 requires that the at least two devices include at least the printer, wherein the received data on which the printer operates is electronic data from a host computer. The received data on which the printer of the machine 10 of Gillam operates is image data from the operator panel 12.

Claim 5 requires that the at least two devices include at least the copier, wherein the received data on which the copier operates is a hard copy original. The received data on which the printer of the machine 10 of Gillam operates is image data from the operator panel 12.

Claim 15 requires that the first operator panel 14 be capable of enabling the machine 12 to operate as at least a facsimile device in a computer-host-base mode but not in a stand-alone-based mode. Claim 15 also requires that the second operator panel 16 have operator-panel electronics for the machine 12 to operate as at least the facsimile device in the stand-alone-based mode and be capable of enabling the machine 12 to also function as at least the facsimile device in the computer-host-based mode.

The examiner, in the advisory action, alleges that a computer-host-based mode of operation of the machine 10 of Gillam occurs when his operator panel 12 sends an instruction

regarding the scan-to-file instruction to the machine 10. Paragraph [0019] of Gillam describes, "... sending data from scanned images to predetermined locations in the memory of an external computer such as 14 ...". This is not enabling the machine 12 to operate as at least a facsimile device in a computer-host-based mode as required by applicants' claim 15.

Claim 19 has similar claim limitations as previously discussed for claim 1, and applicants' previous remarks concerning the patentability of claim 1 over Gillam are herein incorporated by reference.

Claim 20 has similar claim limitations as previously discussed for claim 15, and applicants' previous remarks concerning the patentability of claim 15 over Gillam are herein incorporated by reference.

The examiner's rejection of claims 6, 16 and 18 as "obvious", under 35 USC 103, is respectfully traversed. The examiner rejects these claims as being unpatentable over Gillam (US 2004/0051894) in view of Aoki (US 2005/0262274) and Oyanagi (US 2002/0044300). Claim 6 depends from claim 1, and claims 16 and 18 depend from claim 15, and applicants' previous remarks concerning the patentability of claims 1 and 15 over Gillam are herein incorporated by reference.

Claim 6 requires that the at least two devices include at least one of the scanner and the facsimile-sending device, wherein the received data on which the scanner operates is a hard copy original, and wherein the received data on which the facsimile-sending device operates is at least one of electronic data from a host computer and a hard copy original. The received data on which the printer of the machine 10 of Gillam operates is image data from the operator panel 12.

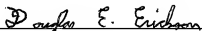
The examiner's rejection of claims 8, 9, 12, and 13 as "obvious", under 35 USC 103, is respectfully traversed. The examiner rejects these claims as being unpatentable over Gillam (US 2004/0051894) in view of Manico (US 7,170,557). Claims 8, 9, 12, and 13 depend from claim 1, and applicants' previous remarks concerning the patentability of claim 1 over Gillam are herein incorporated by reference.

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Amendment Accompanying RCE

The examiner's rejection of claim 22 as "obvious", under 35 USC 103, is respectfully traversed. The examiner rejects these claims as being unpatentable over Gillam (US 2004/0051894) in view of admitted prior art. Claim 22 depends from claim 1, and applicants' previous remarks concerning the patentability of claim 1 over Gillam are herein incorporated by reference.

Inasmuch as each of the rejections has been answered by the above remarks and amended claims, it is respectfully requested that the rejections be withdrawn, and that this application be passed to issue. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees required or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-0809.

Respectfully submitted,



Douglas E. Erickson
Reg. No. 29,530

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THOMPSON HINE LLP
2000 Courthouse Plaza NE
10 West Second Street
Dayton, Ohio 45402-1758
(937) 443-6814